

BOROUGH OF MONMOUTH.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

(DR. W. H. WILLIAMS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1946.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Monmouth.

MR. MAYOR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics, Sanitary Circumstances, and Sanitary Administration for the year ending 31st December, 1946. It has been prepared according to instructions issued by the Ministry of Health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population for 1946 (estimated) 5,082.

		Males	Females	Total
LIVE BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	40	38	78
	{ Illegitimate	7	6	13

Birth Rate 17.78 per 1,000.

The corresponding Birth Rate for England and Wales was 19.1 per 1,000.

The corresponding Birth Rate for the County was 19.9 per 1,000.

		Males	Females	Total
STILL BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	1	2	3
	{ Illegitimate	1	0	1

The still birth rate was .77 per 1,000.

The corresponding rate for England and Wales was .53.

The corresponding rate for the County was .64.

		Males	Females	Total
DEATHS	...	39	25	64

Death rate was 12.4 per 1,000.

Corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

Corresponding rate for the County was 11.7.

		Males	Females	Total
DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR	{ Legitimate	3	3	6
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	

Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 is:—Legitimate 65.1; Illegitimate 0. Total 65.1.

Corresponding rate for England and Wales was 43.

Corresponding rate for the County was 47.6.

Number of Women dying in consequence of child-birth—From Sepsis 0; From other causes 0. Total 0.

Deaths from Measles	0
" " Whooping Cough ...	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2) ...	0
Of the Deaths referred to 3 were due to Tuberculosis	
4 " " Malignant Diseases	
15 " " Heart Disease	
3 " " Pneumonia	
1 " " Appendicitis	
10 " " Nephritis	
1 " " Premature Birth	
5 " " Congenital Malformation	
2 " " Violence.	

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.—The main water supply of the town is supplied by the Monmouth Gas and Water Works Company Limited. This supply has been regularly examined and, in all but two cases, proved satisfactory. Check examinations were made on the two unsatisfactory results and, after attention by the Company concerned, proved satisfactory. The samples were taken as follows:—

17 Samples—15 satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

Five samples were taken from private and public wells, and, out of the four wells concerned, two proved satisfactory after remedial measures had been taken. There are still two unsatisfactory supplies in the area, viz. Upper Redbrook, comprising nine houses and the Forge area comprising eight houses. These two matters are being pursued.

The pressure of the low pressure supply is not in all respects satisfactory and it is suggested that measures should be taken to ensure the adequate pressure throughout the area covered by this supply.

The number of houses supplied by main direct into the house is 1,379 (estimated population 4,137), and the number of houses supplied by stand pipes is 88 (estimated population 560).

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—Fifty-one (51) new connections have been made.
3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—Pollution is very slight.
4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Fifty-one (51) new Closets were erected and the number is now 1,262.
5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.—The area of Collection remains the same as for previous year. All salvageable material is separated and disposed of to recognised dealers.
6. SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA:

	Number of Inspections	Informal Notice	Formal Notice	Complied with
Housing	18	0	18	7
Bakehouses ...	30	0	0	0
Dairies and Cowsheds	34	0	0	0
Slaughter Houses ...	Daily.			
Infectious Disease ...	11	0	0	0
Nuisances	24	9	0	9
Disinfections ...	11	0	0	0

7. **SHOPS.**—No action.
8. **CAMPING SITES.**—Two sites are licensed.
9. **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**—No action.
10. **SWIMMING POOLS.**—None are open to the general public.
11. **ERADICATION OF BED BUGS :**
- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| (a) Number of Council Houses infested | ... | ... | 1 |
| Other houses | ... | ... | 3 |
| (b) Infested houses sealed and fumigated | ... | ... | 4 |
| (c) Belongings of tenants removed and fumigated | ... | ... | 0 |
12. **SCHOOLS.**—All schools are on the main Sewerage and Water Supply.

SECTION B.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—17 samples of milk were sent for bacteriological examination, where any were found to be unsatisfactory, the matter was immediately taken up with the Producer.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—During the year 13,305lbs. of meat and 5,792lbs. of edible offal were condemned.

8,420 carcases were inspected.

The following other foods were destroyed : Tinned Meat 515 Tins ; Meat 101lbs. ; Dried Fruit 228lbs. ; Manufactured Foods 259 tins ; Fish 40lbs. ; Bacon 16lbs. ; Jam 34lbs.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED :

	CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
Number inspected	559	586	7179	96
All diseases except T.B. (whole carcases condemned)	7	4	22	2
T.B. ONLY	14	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	221	6	605	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Towards the end of the year under review, the Fever Hospital was closed owing to lack of staff, and in spite of attempts to engage a new staff, which proved useless, it still remains closed, but arrangements have been made to receive cases at Chepstow.

Fortunately the district was fairly free from notifiable diseases during the year.

Nine cases of Scarlet Fever were sent to hospital.

Six cases of Whooping Cough were treated at home.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. HUMPHREY WILLIAMS.

